

February
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RURAL DISTRICT
OF
CALNE & CHIPPENHAM

1962



RURAL DISTRICT

OF

CAINE AND CHIPPENHAM

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER, 1962.

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The Chairman,
Calne & Chippenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1962 in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the Report are required by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and H.M. Inspector of Factories; a copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. H.J. Taylor, is incorporated and provides detailed information on environmental public health within the Rural District.

I am grateful to Mr. Hales, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Witham and the staff of the Council for their co-operation and assistance during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

C.L. Broomhead,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Chairman,
Colon & Commonwealth Bureau Legislative Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual
Report for the year 1962 in accordance with Regulation
19(2) of the Public Health Ordinance, 1955.

Copies of the Report are submitted to the
Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries
& Food, the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and
the Department of Transport & are also sent to the
County Medical Officer of Health.

The report of the Health Public Health
Inspector, Mr. H. E. Taylor, is incorporated and provides
detailed information on environmental & public health aspects
of the district.

I am grateful to Mr. Wilson, Mr. Taylor, Mr.
Wilson and the staff of the Council for their co-operation
and assistance during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. L. Brownhead,

Medical Officer of Health.



(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

5, High Street,
Chippenham.

Tel: Chippenham 2821 Extn. 49

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury, and the Rural District of Malmesbury, Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

(b) SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

+ H.J. Taylor, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(c) ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

+ S.H. Murray, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
+ E.J. Silvester, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
+ A.F.M. Howard, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

+ Qualifications held by these Officers:-

Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Other Foods Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works of the Royal Sanitary Institute. (Note The Royal Sanitary Institute is now the Royal Society of Health).

(d) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

(e) Committees of the Council which are concerned with matters of Public Health.

Finance, Staff and General Purposes Committee
Public Health Committee
Housing Committee.

These Committees meet every four weeks throughout the year and deal with all matters appertaining to public health and housing.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.M. Broome, F.D., M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.

2, High Street, Chippingham 1821 Exm. 19

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Chippingham and Salisbury, and the Rural District of Salisbury, Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

(b) CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

H.J. Taylor, B.Sc., F.H.S., M.A.P.H.I.

(c) ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

H.H. Murray, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I.
H.J. Silvester, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I.
A.H. Bennett, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I.

Qualifications held by these Officers:-

Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Bath and other Food Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to buildings and public health. The Royal Sanitary Institute. (Note the Royal Sanitary Institute is now the Royal Society of Health).

(d) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.O.V. Williams, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I.

(e) COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL WHEN ARE CONCERNED WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Finance, Health and General Purposes Committee
Public Health Committee
Housing Committee.

These Committees meet every four weeks throughout the year and deal with all matters pertaining to public health and housing.



The birth rate shows a slight increase, compared with 1961.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 12.2 per 1000 live births is considerably lower than the rate for 1961 (27.6). Five of these infants died during the first week of life.

The death rate of 9.7 per 1000 of the population is lower than that of the previous year (11. per 1000) and lower than that of England & Wales (11.9 per 1000) during 1962. Causes of death show little change from previous years and were due principally to coronary disease and the various forms of cancer. Notifiable infectious disease did not contribute to the death rate.

During 1962, the major infectious diseases were conspicuous by their absence and the total notifications received (71 after correction) is the lowest for some years.

There has only been a slight reduction in the notification of new cases of tuberculosis; the numbers are small however and there have been no deaths due to this infection.

It is apparent therefore that the health of the population in the district remained excellent. On the following pages more detailed statistics are available, and the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. H.J. Taylor, includes comment on the inspections carried out and on the various samples sent to the Public Health Laboratory during the year.

C.L. Broomhead,
Medical Officer of Health.

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Area (in acres)	85,388
Population	33,510
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1962 according to the rate book)	8,655
Rateable Value as at 31.12.62	£370, 769.
Sum represented by the Penny Rate	£1515.

VITAL STATISTICSLIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	280	266	546
Illegitimate	11	14	25
Total	<u>291</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>571</u>

Crude Birth Rate for the District.	17.03
per 1000 of the population.	
Adjusted Birth Rate for the District	18.05
per 1000 of the population	
Comparative Rate for England & Wales	18.0
per 1000 of the population	

Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth rate and death rate for the district are to be multiplied by a "comparability factor" given by the Registrar General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

STILL BIRTHS

Ten still births were recorded during 1962. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 17.3. The comparative rate for England & Wales is given by the Registrar General as 18.1.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year of age:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	2	2
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

Five of these children died during their first week of life.

Rate per 1000 live births	12.2
Comparative rate for England & Wales	20.7

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ORIGINAL ARTICLES

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DEATHS

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Deaths recorded in the Rural District during 1962 were as follows:-

	Males	Females	Total
	136	121	257
Crude death rate for the district.....			7.6
per 1000 of the population.			
Adjusted death rate for the district.....			9.7
per 1000 of the population			
Comparative rate for England & Wales.....			11.9
per 1000 of the population.			

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective & parasitic disease	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	3	3
" " , lung, bronchus	12	-	12
" " , breast	-	4	4
" " , uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	17	18	35
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	2	2
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	20	34
Coronary disease, angina	30	18	48
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart disease	15	13	28
Other circulatory disease	7	3	10
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	8	10	18
Bronchitis	8	2	10
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	-	2	2
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	9	11	20
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1	4
All other accidents	3	2	5
Suicide	2	-	2
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	136	121	257

The following table lists cases of infectious disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1962. Comparative figures have been included for previous years since 1959.

DISEASE	1959		1960		1961		1962	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	33	33	31	30	6	6	3	3
Whooping Cough	13	13	7	7	13	13	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	378	378	49	49	534	534	60	60
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
As. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	46	39	9	7	-	-	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	2	27	27	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	8	8	3	3	4	4	7	7
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	483	476	129	126	557	557	72	71

a= Numbers originally notified.

b= Final Numbers after correction.

TUBERCULOSIS

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New cases of Tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the Chest Physician during 1962, with comparative statistics for previous years since 1948, are given below.

YEAR	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	TOTAL
1948	14	7	21
1949	11	10	21
1950	30	2	32
1951	26	7	33
1952	23	5	28
1953	24	8	32
1954	8	3	11
1955	18	1	19
1956	11	2	13
1957	10	3	13
1958	15	2	17
1959	11	2	13
1960	6	-	6
1961	8	6	14
1962	11	2	13

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1962

AGE GROUPS	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	<u>Resp.</u>		<u>Non-Resp</u>		<u>Resp.</u>		<u>Non-Resp.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5	1	3		1				
15								
25	1		1					
35		1						
45	3							
55	1							
65 upwards	1							
TOTALS:-	7	4	1	1	-	-	-	-

It should be noted that the above figures do not represent the total number of individuals suffering from Tuberculosis in the Rural District. In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the district or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases of Tuberculosis were living in the Rural District at the end of 1962.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	68	39	107
Non-Pulmonary	21	27	48
Total:	89	66	155

A total of 152 Tuberculous Persons were on the Register at the end of 1961.

Mass X-Ray

The Mass Radiography Service visited various centres in the Rural District during 1962, with the following results.

<u>Total Examinations</u>	<u>Tuberculous Persons found.</u>	<u>Chest conditions other than T.B.</u>
1,035	1	10

The single case of Tuberculosis found was considered healed.

I am grateful to Mr. O.J. Baugh, the Council's Housing Manager for the following information. 8

1. Total number of applicants on list at 31 Dec 62 405
2. Total number of applications received during 1962 168
- 3 (a) Total number rehoused in permanent houses,
flats and retirement bungalows 66
- (b) In other accommodation 28
- 4 Total number of applicants for retirement
accommodation (included in 1 above) 78
- 5 Evicted families:
(a) number brought to notice. 37
(b) number rehoused 16
- 6 Number of Units of accommodation built and
occupied in 1962
(a) By the Council. . . .Houses 51
 Flats 44
 RBs 8 103
(b) By Private Enterprise 184

RE-DEVELOPMENT OF BUNGALOW ESTATES

1. SITE 1A

The redevelopment of this Estate has continued throughout the year.
By the end of the year, 83 of the 130 new units of accommodation to be provided on this Estate had been completed.

2. RUDLOE ESTATE

12 more bungalows on the Estate were closed down leaving 8 in Stage 11 and 41 in Stage 111 still occupied.

Some progress was made with the building in Stage 1, but no units were completed.

3. SITE 1B

Considerable progress was made with the clearance of Stage 1 in preparation for building to commence. In all, 57 of the 188 bungalows on this Estate have now been closed down.

The North Wilts. Water Board finally took over the administration of the Councils' Water Undertakings on the 1st October, 1962 and decided that the appointment of a Medical Officer to the Board was not required.

The Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health stated in his Annual Report for 1957 that Water Undertakings should ensure that they have access to competent medical advice at all times. The Water Board also requires advice on the medical fitness of new employees and whether those employed in intimate contact with water sources are free from intestinal infection. It was considered advisable therefore to convene a meeting between the Clerk and Engineer of the North Wilts. Water Board, the Medical Officers of Health of the adjoining districts within the area of supply of the Board, and the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Bath to arrange a sampling procedure for the future and to define and accept individual responsibilities. A meeting took place on the 12th. October, 1962 and the following agreement was reached.

- (a) Bacteriological examination of samples of water taken both by the Board and the Constituent Councils to be carried out at the Salisbury Laboratories for the Devizes Districts and at the Bath Laboratories for the remaining Districts. Dr. Mann requested that samples should be delivered to the Laboratories not later than Thursday in each week unless special arrangements were made.
- (b) The Constituent Councils Medical Officers to continue to have samples taken from consumers' taps and to observe chlorine residuals.
- (c) The Board's Officers to take samples at the sources and also from consumers' taps.
- (d) The arrangements for chemical and physical examination of water supplies to be undertaken by the Board's Officers.
- (e) Full interchange of laboratory reports on all samples whether taken by the Board or the Constituent Councils. If possible, the Laboratories to send copies of reports direct to both Board and Medical Officer of the district concerned.
- (f) The Medical Officers agreed to co-operate in the examination of new employees both for superannuation purposes and for fitness to be employed in waterworks.
- (g) The position of employees who had been transferred from the Constituent Councils was carefully considered and it was decided to recommend to the Board that the medical history of all transferred employees be reviewed.

The Medical Officers stressed the importance of the recommendations relating to general cleanliness at waterworks contained in Memorandum 221.

The following detail has been supplied by Mr. Witham, Engineer and Surveyor to the Council.

The purity has been satisfactory. All supplies are chlorinated except the small supply at Slaughterford. This source is being abandoned and a new main has been laid linking the hamlet with the Council's Regional Supply.

There has been a restriction on the use of hosepipes since December, 1961.

Continuation of information supplied by Mr. Witham.

The water supply is not plumbo-solvent.

At the 31st, March, 1962, 96% of the population had a public piped water supply. 17 houses were supplied from public standpipes. The number of private standpipes is unknown. The number of public standpipes and the number of houses supplied is as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of public standpipes.</u>	<u>No. of houses supplied.</u>
Biddestone	-	-
Box	1	3
Bremhill	-	-
Calne Without	-	-
Cherhill	-	-
Chippenham Without	-	-
Christian Malford	-	-
Colerne	3	3
Compton Bassett	-	-
Corsham	-	-
Grittleton	-	-
Headington	-	-
Hilmarton	1	1
Kington Langley	-	-
Kington St. Michael	-	-
Lacock	-	-
Langley Burrell	-	-
Nettleton	4	4
North Wraxall	-	-
Pewsham	-	-
Stanton St. Quinton	-	-
Sutton Benger	1	1
Yatton Keynell	3	5

Samples of the raw and treated water have been taken at regular intervals for examination at the Public Health Laboratories and appropriate action has been taken on the few occasions when pollution has been reported.

Sewage Disposal and Sewerage.

A full report on this subject has already been given to the Council by Mr. Witham, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor who has supplied me with the following information.

Approximately 47% of houses in the district are connected to public sewers. Schemes have been approved and it is hoped work will commence in 1963 on schemes to make sewers available to a further 9¹/₄ houses, principally in Kington St. Michael, Kington Langley, Sutton Benger, Christian Malford and parts of Box, Corsham and Bremhill.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The Wilts. County Council as a Local Health Authority, is responsible for the formation of schemes for the immunisation of children against certain infections. I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health for the following information.

Immunisation against Diphtheria & Whooping Cough (Statistics for 1962)

<u>Year of Birth</u>		1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1953-57	1948-52
Primary imms completed during 1962	Diph	152	209	16	8	7	51	7
	Wh/c	152	209	16	5	4	4	-
	Tet.	152	207	17	9	8	231	99
Reinf. injections administered during 1962	Diph	-	24	82	25	17	295	6
	W/c	-	20	76	21	8	41	-
	Tet.	-	25	84	30	14	334	76

Vaccination against Smallpox

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2-4</u>	<u>5-14</u>	<u>15 or over</u>
Vaccinations	355	90	124	858	1097
Revaccinations	-	2	123	888	1873

Completed Poliomyelitis Immunisations during 1962

<u>Persons Born</u>	<u>2nd inj.</u>	<u>3rd inj.</u>	<u>4th. inj.</u>	<u>3 Oral</u>	<u>3rd.oral after 2 injs.</u>	<u>4th. oral.</u>
1943-1961	144	381	112	277	166	409
1933-1942	30	81	3	57	51	1
Babies born in 1962	1	-	-	27	-	-
Others	66	212	3	83	112	3
TOTALS.	241	674	118	444	329	413

§ 1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to give a survey of the results of the research of the author in the field of the theory of the representation of the symmetric group. The results are presented in a way which is intended to be accessible to a wide circle of mathematicians.

§ 2. The symmetric group

The symmetric group S_n is the group of all permutations of the set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. It is denoted by S_n and has order $n!$.

The symmetric group S_n is a finite group. It is a simple group for $n \geq 5$. It is a solvable group for $n \leq 4$.

The symmetric group S_n is a permutation group. It is a transitive group. It is a primitive group. It is a faithful group.

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour and pleasure to report in greater detail on the various duties performed by the Public Health Staff during 1962.

It will be recollected that on 1st November 1961, the duties of Surveyor to the Council were transferred from the Public Health Department to the Engineering Department. Thus, 1st January 1962 introduced the first full year that the work of the Public Health Department was confined strictly to duties appertaining to public health matters.

The changeover of responsibilities was carried out smoothly and with little interruption of work, and in the early part of the year the re-organisation was complete.

One of the main tasks of the Department has been the completion of the Five-Year Slum Clearance Survey. This included the detailed inspection of some fifty-three tentatively-scheduled unfit houses in the Parish of Calne Without. Certain final decisions had to be made concerning houses reported as unfit for human habitation in the Parishes of Box, Bremhill, Heddington, Hilmarton and Lacock.

The Housing Committee in March considered a full report on the fifty-three houses inspected in the Parish of Calne Without, and it was decided that fifteen of these properties should be inspected by the Eastern Area Unfit Houses Inspection Sub-Committee.

The final decisions taken by the Council in connection with unfit houses during 1962 are summarised later in this report.

A review of the work of the Housing Committee undertaken to date in connection with the Five-Year Slum Clearance Programme gives the following information:-

Houses demolished	69
Demolition Orders made but not yet enforced	14
Houses closed	26 [±]
Houses part closed	2
Closing Order made but house still occupied	-
Undertakings not to re-let - operative	17
Undertakings not to re-let - but houses still occupied	17
Undertakings to make fit - completed	12
Undertakings to make fit - in progress or pending vacation... ..	18
Houses otherwise made fit	58
Houses improved, but not completely fit	29
Statutory Notice to repair - not yet complied with	1
TOTAL...	<u>263</u>
± One house subsequently demolished.	

These statistics do not include details of the number of temporary war-time bungalows in Box and Corsham which have been demolished as unfit.

At the 31st December 1962 some 156 of these bungalows had been demolished.

The back of the slum clearance problem has thus been broken, but a new survey over the next year or so will reveal houses which have not been properly maintained, and have deteriorated to such a degree as to become unfit. From time to time, reports on these properties will be presented to the Council for formal action.

It is essential in these "enlightened" days, that not only should houses be reasonably maintained, but that they should be improved to provide the accepted amenities of bathroom, water-closet, hot water supply, wash-hand basin and ventilated food-store.

The provision of a septic tank system of drainage has enabled many properties not within reach of a public sewer to be provided with the abovementioned facilities, but there are still many hundreds of houses with a public sewer available, yet these facilities are lacking.

The recently completed public sewers in Box and Derry Hill will enable a still greater number of houses to be modernised, and the energies of the Public Health Staff will be directed more forceably to the improvement of such properties.

A great deal of time this year has been devoted to work associated with the improvement or conversion of properties with the aid of Discretionary or Standard Improvement Grants. The statistics relating to improvement grant work referred to later in this report will not truly reflect the effort which has been put into this work, chiefly by Mr. Howard and myself. Mr. Murray and Mr. Silvester have contributed to this work by carrying out house-to-house surveys in the recently-sewered areas of Box, Derry Hill and Studley. Pamphlets explaining Improvement Grants have been left at each property in these areas, and householders have been given personal explanations of these Grants.

Similar surveys will be made during 1963 in selected areas, and it is hoped that by this means property owners will be encouraged to improve their houses with the help of Improvement Grants.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has issued two important Circulars on Improvement and Conversion Grants during 1962.

Circular No. 29/62 was in the form of a memorandum of guidance on the handling of applications for grants towards improvements and conversions.

A later circular, No. 42/62, issued in August, indicated that the Government was not satisfied with the rate of improvement of houses, and the Minister of Housing and Local Government requested local authorities to secure a very big increase in houses to be improved. The Circular set out means of achieving this aim and local authorities were asked to notify the Minister by the end of 1962 of the steps proposed to be taken to increase the tempo of improvement to houses.

The Housing Committee gave very careful thought to this Circular, and recommended the Council to adopt the following procedure:-

1. To hold a conference on Improvement Grants, and to invite Estate Agents, property owners and their Agents or Solicitors, and to explain the Council's policy to these delegates.
2. To organise a publicity campaign and circularise Parish Councils and local organisations with information on Improvement Grants.
3. To release a Press statement explaining the Council's policy in relation to these Grants.

4. To inaugurate house-to-house surveys in various areas and villages in the district where public sewers are available and give personal explanations of these Grants to householders.
5. To give every financial aid to owners to encourage and accelerate the number of houses improved.
6. To consider in appropriate cases, temporarily re-housing tenants whilst houses were being improved.

The Council was further recommended to advise the Minister that:

- (i) Grants should be made more attractive financially to owners as they are still not prepared to invest further capital in their properties without greater incentive. The £400 maximum grant was introduced in 1954, and since that time building costs have risen considerably.
- (ii) In many villages, it is not possible to make satisfactory progress until sewers are provided and the Minister has been requested to give greater priority to the provision of sewerage schemes in rural areas.
- (iii) The Wiltshire Branch of the Rural District Councils' Association has been asked to support a recommendation that local authorities be given alternative compulsory powers in relation to improvement of houses, without the need to acquire the properties to be improved.

The Council's record with regard to the improvement of houses is quite good, and it is anticipated that by the end of 1962 the number of properties improved with these Grants will be within striking distance of 500 houses. Nevertheless, a greater sense of urgency is required in the improvement of these houses if the rate of improvement is to be accelerated, to the extent that an accurate estimate can be made as to the approximate date when all properties within the Rural District, at least, reach the standard required for Standard Improvement Grants. At the present rate of progress, 1985 will have been reached before this aim is achieved.

The delegation agreement entered into with the Wilts County Council, whereby the District Council would be responsible for the issue of Dealers' Milk Licences and the sampling of milk under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1960, has worked very smoothly.

Some 289 samples of milk have been sent to the Public Health Laboratory for testing and only three of these samples have failed to pass the prescribed tests. In addition to the sampling of milk, twenty-three rinse series of milk bottles were sent to the Laboratory, to check the effectiveness of bottle-washing, and all were found to be satisfactory.

A close check has also been kept on ice-cream products, and 174 samples have been forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory for testing. Only one sample failed to reach the accepted grade.

The increased sale of unwrapped ice-cream, particularly from mobile vehicles, will require increased vigilance by your Public Health Staff, owing to the greater risk of contamination by incomplete sterilisation of the complicated machines which produce this form of ice-cream. I understand that soft ice-cream is very pleasing to the palate and an advertisement campaign to increase the sale of this product will be launched by the leading manufacturers in this industry.

Regular sampling of water from the various water sources within the Rural District has been undertaken, and of the large number of samples taken from these public chlorinated services, only two have failed to pass the required bacteriological examination.

Immediate action on the part of the Waterworks Department has put matters right and repeat samples have proved the water to be pure and wholesome. The two unfit samples taken from the Widdenham source were taken before the water had been subjected to chlorination.

Twenty-eight samples have also been taken from private sources, and of these, eleven have been found to be so contaminated as to be regarded as unfit for drinking purposes. Owners of these supplies have been requested to provide a supply of wholesome water from the public mains.

Unavoidable delays in the completion of the Council-owned caravan sites at:-

- (a) Northleaze, Corsham,
- (b) Clarks Leaze, Yatton Keynell,
- (c) College Green, Sutton Benger, and
- (d) Harts Close, Goatacre, Hilmarton,

have retarded the Council's programme for re-siting caravans which are on unsatisfactory sites to new caravan sites provided by the Council.

Site (b) became available in March 1962, Site (c) in May 1962, and Site (d) in June 1962. Work had not been started on the extension to the Northleaze Caravan Site by the end of the year, but the successful Contractor would be commencing work there early in 1963.

The completion of three Council caravan sites has enabled some unsatisfactory sites to be closed and the rigid control of caravans imposed by the Council has checked the unofficial use of individual sites scattered throughout the Rural District. The thirty additional standings to be provided at Northleaze will enable further unsatisfactory sites to be closed and a certain number of applicants on the Council's waiting list can be accommodated there.

The caravan situation, as a result of effective control, has considerably improved, and the position at 31st December 1962 was as follows:-

Original No. of Caravans.	No. of Caravans removed from Unauthorised Sites.	No. of Caravan Sites licensed and complying with Licence Conditions.	Sites exempt from Planning Consent.	No. of Unauthorised Caravan Sites.
71	47	17	3	15

These figures, when totalled across, will not necessarily balance, as more than one caravan has been removed from some sites.

During the year, temporary planning approval has been given to thirteen new individual caravan sites within the Rural District, and Public Health Licences have been granted to enable these sites to be occupied.

In addition to the caravans referred to above, there are two private licenced sites at Box and Colerne, capable of accommodating twenty-nine and twenty caravans respectively, together with the sixty Council caravan standings.

A waiting list for caravan sites is maintained, and at the end of the year thirty-seven applicants wished to be accommodated on the Council's sites.

The annual cost of the Council's refuse service is now in the region of £16,500. Although every effort is made to stabilise this cost, the rising wages bill, cost of purchasing and maintaining expensive specialist refuse vehicles and plant, together with the expansion of the service by the addition of some 200-300 properties per year, must inevitably lead to rising expenses.

In September, over a period of ten days, I was able to organise a complete survey of each refuse collection route, and the information obtained from this survey and from subsequent surveys which I intend to carry out, should enable certain changes to be made in the collection routes, which will effect savings in both labour and vehicle costs. I hope too, to be able to re-organise the salvage collection service.

The reception at Inwood of household refuse from the Melksham Urban District Council over the past two years has used up the available tipping space at this refuse tip more quickly than anticipated, and alternative tipping space became a matter of some urgency.

After prolonged negotiations with the Executors of the late owner of a quarry at Box Hill, satisfactory terms were reached to use this land for controlled refuse disposal. Similar negotiations with the Grittleton Estate resulted in a very useful quarry at Clapcote being leased for refuse disposal.

These new disposal sites are strategically situated, and will enable refuse from properties within five miles of the sites to be more expeditiously collected and disposed of than heretofore. Another economy has thus been achieved.

I have to report however, that an old quarry situated at Burton, which has been used for more than twenty years as a refuse tip was filled completely and the tipping area covered with 9-12 inches of soil.

The indiscriminate deposit of litter in the countryside has been a particular problem during the year and the provisions of the Litter Act 1958 have been of little benefit in the district.

The Wilts County Council has been aware of this growing problem and as a result of a joint conference between officers of the County Council and District Councils, a scheme of closer liaison between District Council and the County Council has been agreed.

As from 1st January 1963, the County Council will provide and maintain an agreed number of litter receptacles at recognised lay-bys, and District Councils will be held responsible for the weekly emptying of such receptacles and the maintenance of the lay-bys free from litter.

The County Council has agreed to make a contribution of 1/6d., or 50% of the actual cost incurred, in respect of the clearance of each receptacle, for a trial period of twelve months, the cost of the service to be reviewed at the end of this trial period.

This joint arrangement should go some way towards solving this litter problem and it is hoped that the County Council will give further help by improving the general appearance of these lay-bys, more aptly described as "litter bays", by providing improved kerbing and better road surfaces.

Perhaps I should make some comments on the work of the Council's Rodent Officer, should the figures relating to this work give Members the idea that the services of a "Pied Piper" are no longer required in this district.

Quite a high proportion of Mr. Mottram's time has been devoted to a survey of farm premises, and about three-fifths of the farms within the Rural District have been visited during the year. Most of these visits had to be made during the summer and early autumn, a time of year when rodents seem to migrate to the fields and hedgerows. In my view therefore, the 10% of premises affected by minor or major infestations may be false - the percentage could be higher.

Experience over the past five years has shown that the majority of farmers are aware of the untold damage which rodents can do to buildings, and to animal and human foodstuffs. The picturesque, often rat-infested corn rickyard is being replaced by rat-proof concrete silo or prefabricated concrete or asbestos-sheet storage sheds.

Where minor rat infestations are left unchecked however, these soon become major infestations and the Rodent Officer has been called in to deal with such infestations, particularly at farm premises with large numbers of poultry, and where the birds are housed in deep litter or battery houses. Once established, these infestations are difficult to eradicate.

Only by continual vigilance can the rat population be kept under control and the work of the Council's Rodent Officer is making a significant contribution to this end.

I have no special comments to make on the other responsibilities of the Public Health Department, other than to say that all branches of our work receive a due proportion of our available time, and that from year to year the emphasis on any particular subject changes, according to the instructions of the Council and particular requests from the Medical Officer of Health.

Much of our time is devoted to the improvement of the housing conditions within the Rural District, particularly as main drainage is being brought to many previously un-sewered areas, but I am not unmindful of the need to ensure that our food shops are well-managed and that the foodstuffs we eat and the liquids we drink are free from harmful bacteria and are hygienically produced.

I take this opportunity once again of thanking the Council for its full support, Dr. Broomhead for his advice and help, and the Public Health staff for a conscientious year of work, and other members of the Council's staff for their ready co-operation.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H.J. TAYLOR,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

General Sanitation:

Water Supply	128
Drainage	686
Stables and Piggeries &c.	27
Caravans, Tents &c.	443
Factories - power	23
" - non-power	1
Outworkers	1
Public Conveniences	36
Theatres, Village Halls &c.	1
Refuse and Salvage Collection	183
Refuse Disposal	187
Litter	112
Rodent Control	98
Atmospheric Pollution	13
Schools	24
Shops (non-food)	10
Nuisances	160
Noise Abatement	-
Knacker's Yard	4
Petrol and Carbide of Calcium	50
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	426

Housing:

No. of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	28	
Re-visits to above houses		21
No. of houses inspected under Housing Acts	107	
Re-visits to above houses		228
No. of houses inspected for overcrowding	-	
Re-visits to above houses		-
No. of houses inspected re Improvement Grants	286	
Re-visits to above houses		283
No. of filthy or verminous premises inspected	6	
Re-visits to above premises		6
No. of inspections of houses infested by flies &c.		26
Miscellaneous Housing Visits		483

Sampling:

Water samples	343
Sewage effluent samples	-
Milk samples, bottle rinses &c.	362
Ice cream samples	153
Food samples	3

Meat and Food Inspections:

No. of visits to:		
Butchers		8
Bakehouses		8
Fried Fish Shops		7
Licensed Premises		54
Canteens, Cafes, Restaurants &c.		20
Dairies and Milk Distributors		50
Fishmongers and Poulterers		4
Poultry Packing Stations		46
Grocers and General Stores		73
Confectioners		7
Ice Cream Premises		46
Greengrocers and Fruiterers		4
Stalls, Vehicles &c.		18
Miscellaneous Food Premises		9

Infectious Diseases:

No. of enquiries in cases of infectious diseases	30
No. of visits re disinfection	6
No. of miscellaneous infectious disease visits	31
No. of food poisoning enquiries	-

427 4942

DRAINAGE.

Some 686 visits have been made during 1962 in connection with drainage problems, but these have chiefly concerned surveys of existing properties, particularly in Box, Derry Hill and Studley, where public sewers have been constructed or are in course of construction.

A number of drainage complaints have been investigated and whenever possible owners have been called upon to execute such work as would remedy those nuisances, or temporarily to mitigate unsatisfactory conditions, until more permanent solutions could be devised.

Connections to Public Sewers.

Yatton Keynell.

The majority of houses and other domestic properties within the sewerable area of this Parish are already connected to the public sewer, but a hard core of undrained properties still remain to be connected.

As a result of further negotiations with owners, eight have been connected to the sewer and work is in progress on a further six properties.

Plans have been received to connect four properties, and work at these will be put in hand in the New Year.

As a policy, the Council has decided to insist on all properties without adequate drainage facilities being connected to the sewer.

Where undue hardship is likely to be caused to owners who are financially unable to meet the cost of such work, the Council has decided to serve Statutory Notices on these owners, and advise them that the Council will execute the necessary work in default, and where the owner cannot meet the annual repayments, a charge will be made on the property.

This method of dealing with the problem is greatly appreciated by such owners, who are thus enabled to receive main drainage facilities, but at the same time be relieved of the anxiety of repayment.

Three statutory notices out of a total of sixteen which have been authorised by the Council, have been served on owners in Yatton Keynell.

Derry Hill and Studley.

The new public sewers in these areas were brought into use in November. In anticipation, a survey of existing drainage facilities was made and the following information obtained:-

<u>No. of Properties:</u>	<u>Means of Drainage:</u>
99	Unsatisfactory drainage.
59	Septic tank drainage.
16	Connected to new sewer.
≠ 16	Connected to Council house sewage disposal works.

≠ A sewer junction has been provided to enable drainage discharging to these works to be taken directly into the public sewers.

The alignment of most of the sewer lengths is such that much of the drainage to septic tanks can be picked up at little cost to owners.

During 1963, the owners of properties with unsatisfactory drainage will be pressed to connect their houses to the new sewer.

Box Hill, Henley and Part of Kingsdown.

A similar survey of properties in the above areas has been made and the following information obtained:-

Area.	No. of Properties which can be connect-ed to the Sewer.	Satis- -factory Drainage.	Connect- -ed to the Sewer.	Work in Progress.	Unsatis- -factory Drainage.
Box Hill.	84	15	37	4	15
Henley.	40	12	24	-	4
Part of Kingsdown.	27	6	10	-	11

The owners of premises with unsatisfactory drainage in these areas will be pressed to connect their houses to the new sewer.

Mile Elm.

The first phase of the small sewerage scheme for this area is in course of construction and a request has been received from other occupiers of property in Mile Elm to extend the sewer to serve their properties.

A survey was carried out to ascertain the need for this sewer and to obtain confirmation as to how many owners would connect to it, if it was provided.

Having been satisfied that all the owners of these houses would connect to the sewer, it was recommended that subject to the approval of the Ministry, this extension scheme be carried out.

LAND DRAINAGE ACT, 1961.

Two complaints of obstructed watercourses within the District have been received and owing to the concurrent powers which are available to River Boards, County Councils, and District Councils, this Council took the initiative in suggesting that an informal conference of interested parties should take place at County Hall, Trowbridge, to decide on future procedure in connection with such complaints.

A meeting took place at County Hall in November, which was attended by officers of this Council, the County Council, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, also the Bristol Avon River Board.

The purpose of this meeting was to consider the powers available to authorities to ensure the drainage of areas into a main river from urban and agricultural areas through intermediate watercourses, the policy to be adopted and the method of financing the work.

The meeting decided that the County Council should accept general responsibility for promoting any scheme for improving the drainage of any particular area, but that the River Board could act as Agents of the County Council in executing any such scheme.

The Ministry of Agriculture would, in principle, be prepared to grant-aid satisfactory improvement schemes of the County Council.

This Council had powers under Section 28 of the above Act, to require an obstructed watercourse to be put in order, either by the person who had caused the obstruction, or by the owner or occupier of the adjoining land.

The Council accepted this recommendation, and it was decided that in the event of non-compliance, the question of serving Notices under Section 28 of the Land Drainage Act would be considered in appropriate cases.

Sampling of Sewage Effluents.

In view of the intended transfer of the Ministry of Works sewers and sewage disposal works at Corsham and Thingley to the Council, and the engagement of Mr. Hill, Manager of these Works, to supervise all Council sewage disposal works, including the analysis of sewage effluents, no sewage samples have been taken by this Department.

Arrangements have been made with the Engineer and Surveyor, that should he require independent analyses of certain sewage effluents, these will be taken by officers in this Department.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The public conveniences at Box, Castle Combe, Colerne and Lacock have been satisfactorily maintained.

All conveniences were re-decorated internally during the year, but much wilful damage has been caused to the conveniences at Box, Corsham and Colerne.

Coin boxes have been ripped off, wash-hand basins smashed, windows broken, and walls defaced: a sad reflection on the mentality of the small proportion of the population who create this damage.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

I have commented at some length on this service in the introduction to this report, and I have little to add.

The strength of the refuse staff has remained at seventeen men, but with re-organisation of part of the service I hope to effect

economies and ultimately reduce the working number to sixteen men. Whether this can be achieved will depend to a large extent on the degree of sickness amongst the refuse staff.

No new refuse vehicles have been purchased during the year, but with increased commitments, a new vehicle will be required in 1963 to replace one of the older refuse vehicles.

Approximately 11,000 tons of refuse was collected and disposed of at the various tips, the approximate cost of the service during the year being as follows:-

Cost of collection	£11,620
Cost of disposal	4,561
	<u>£16,181</u>

SUPPLY OF DUSTBINS.

The Council still continue to purchase dustbins for re-sale to ratepayers in the Rural District, and during the last year some 110 large and 29 small bins have been sold.

A survey of dustbins carried out in the autumn revealed that approximately 70% of householders had standard regulation dustbins, and a determined effort will be made to ensure that every household is provided with a regulation dustbin. Not only will this ease the burden on the refuse collectors but it will help to control the fly menace and lead people to be more hygienically minded.

LITTER ACT, 1958:

Litter Baskets and Litter Control.

The system of providing, maintaining and emptying some twenty litter bins at various road lay-bys has continued throughout the year. These receptacles have served a very useful purpose, but they have been abused by many people who have considered it expedient to fill them with all forms of unwanted scrap, and many of the lay-bys during the height of the summer holiday season have been left in a disgusting condition.

It is to be hoped that the new arrangement with the County Council will help to improve conditions considerably and the wholehearted co-operation of the general public could make conditions so much better.

WASTE PAPER.

The quantity of waste paper collected during 1962 has again been disappointingly low. Only 253 tons were collected during the year, compared with 294 tons in 1961 and 335 tons in 1960.

Several factors have contributed to this reduction in total sales. Many private organisations arrange collections to raise funds, and some private contractors have started to operate and offer a small sum of money for better quality waste paper. I feel too, that our present system of collection requires re-organising and I am hoping to bring a more economic and effective system of collection into operation when the financial year 1963/4 commences on 1st April 1963.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Public Health Act, 1936; Section 107.

In this Rural District there are no offensive trade establishments, such as are defined by the above Act.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are still three fish-and-chip shops in the District, situated at Box, Colerne and Corshan, and these have been maintained satisfactorily.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960.

I have already referred to the considerable improvement in the caravan situation in this district.

During the year, the Council approved the issue of two permanent and thirteen temporary Public Health Licences to use land as caravan sites. These sites were situated in the following Parishes:-

Box	1	Hilmarton	1
Castle Combe	1	Kington Langley... ..	1
Cherhill	1	Nettleton	2
Christian Malford	1	North Wraxall	1
Colerne	2	Sutton Benger	1
Corsham	3		

The total number of Public Health Licences for caravans in the various Parishes which are still current is as set out below:-

Biddestone	1	Heddington... ..	1
Box	4	Hilmarton	2
Bremhill	2	Kington Langley... ..	2
Calne Without	-	Kington St.Michael	-
Castle Combe	-	Lacock	3
Cherhill	2	Langley Burrell Wt.	-
Chippenham Without	-	Nettleton	4
Christian Malford	3	North Wraxall	1
Colerne	4	Pewsham	1
Compton Bassett	-	Stanton St.Quintin	-
Corsham	6	Sutton Benger	2
Grittleton	-	Yatton Keynell	-

COUNCIL CARAVAN SITES.1. Northleaze, Bradford Road, Corsham.

Two additional standings have been added to this site, which can now accommodate thirty-four caravans. When the extension is completed in the summer of 1963 the total number of standings will be raised to sixty-four.

2. Clarks Leaze, Yatton Keynell.

Certain improvements to this site have been carried out, including the provision of additional sub-soil drains to two standings and the construction of an additional w.c. in the men's lavatory.

3. College Green, Sutton Benger.

An additional w.c. has been provided to the men's lavatory and one of the gully traps has had to be replaced by a back inlet gully to enable the waste pipe from the caravan standing to drain more effectively into the main drain for the site.

4. Harts Close, Goatacre.

Additional paving slabs have been provided on this site to form a reasonable path from the roadway to each caravan.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936; Sections 83-85.Filthy or Verminous Premises or Articles and Verminous Persons.

It has been necessary to visit several properties in connection with verminous or filthy premises and suitable treatments have been given to deal with infestations. Repeat visits are made

to these properties and every encouragement is given to the occupiers to improve and maintain the general standard of cleanliness of the cottages and surroundings.

The very unsatisfactory condition of a house in the Parish of Bremhill was brought to the notice of the Council, in which a large number of dogs and cats were being kept in such a place and manner as to be prejudicial to health and a nuisance. It was necessary to serve an Abatement Notice on the occupier, requiring the abatement of the nuisance.

Flies and Wasps.

A number of enquiries have been received on how to deal with infestations of flies and wasps. I am quite happy to deal with fly infestations as treatments can be carried out without danger to the operator.

Wasps are a different proposition, particularly when they have lodged in the roof or cavity wall of a house, and I am not keen on the staff dealing with these infestations, especially as we are not provided with protective headgear or gloves.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Enquiries have been made into three cases of Scarlet Fever, and two of Meningitis, and in every case disinfection of the premises was carried out.

Enquiries were also made into the environmental circumstances of ten Tuberculosis cases.

One case of Salmonella Typhi Murium was notified, and this was under the surveillance of the Medical Officer of Health.

There were no serious outbreaks of Dysentery during 1962. Enquiries were made into one case of Sonne Dysentery, which was subsequently cleared, and an outbreak of Diarrhoea at Yatton Keynell School was investigated, but proved not to be Dysentery.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

Some 180 visits were made to the 120 food premises in the Rural District this year. As each year passes, one can see a general improvement in food premises and most of these improvements are carried out in a voluntary way by the owners, who find it increasingly necessary to have an attractive and well-laid-out shop in order to attract customers and meet the increased competition from large multiple stores.

I would however suggest to some milk retailers that the general public would have a better impression of their trade if all members of their delivery staff were provided with distinctive overalls or other suitable protective clothing.

Food premises within the area consist of:

Grocers	15
General Stores	58
Sweets and ices	13
Butchers	11
Bakers	8
Fish and fruit shops	6
Restaurants and cafes	7
Fish-and-chip shops	3
Confectioners	1

Condemned Foods.

During 1962 the following foodstuffs were inspected by the Council's Public Health Inspectors, condemned, and subsequently surrendered as being unfit for human consumption:

One 6lbs. tin corned beef	...	...	punctured.
Two 12ozs. tins chopped pork	...	...	perforated.
One 29ozs. tin pears	...	...	punctured.
Two $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. packages sliced bacon	...	...	sour.
One side of bacon	...	...	sour.
2 stones cod fillets	...	...	tainted.
1 packet 'Crackerbarrel' cheese	...	...	mouldy.

POULTRY PACKING STATIONS.

The two large poultry packing stations in the District have received weekly visits from the staff of the department, and the close liaison which has always been maintained with these establishments has continued.

The packing station situated in Corsham ceased to operate in February, 1962.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1959.

There are now 91 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, compared with 92 in 1961.

During the year, 174 samples of ice cream were taken, of which 168 were Grade I and five were Grade II. There was also one sample which fell into Grade III. The majority of ice cream samples taken are expected to be placed in Grades I or II; if in Grades III or IV, some faulty practice or practices during production or distribution are suggested. The sample which was Grade III was from a bulk supply, but following investigation of methods, further samples were found to be Grade I.

Premises registered for the storage and sale of Ice Cream:

Biddestone..... 1	Colerne..... 7	Lacock.....5
Box.....13	Compton Bassett..... 2	Langley Burrell Wt. ..1
Bremhill..... 3	Corsham.....20	Nettleton.....3
Calne Without..... 2	Grittleton..... 2	North Wraxall.....2
Castle Combe..... 4	Heddington..... 2	Pewsham.....1
Cherhill..... 5	Hilmarton..... 2	Stanton St.Quintin....1
Chippenham Without... -	Kington Langley..... 3	Sutton Benger.....3
Christian Malford.... 3	Kington St.Michael... 2	Yatton Keynell.....4

<u>Sampling of Ice Cream:</u>		<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>
Grade	I	168	144
"	II	5	4
"	III	1	-
"	IV	-	-

LICENSED PREMISES.

During 1962, fifty-four inspections of licensed premises have been carried out. The owners of the two licensed houses in Yatton Keynell have been asked to connect these properties to the sewer and to provide improved sanitary accommodation. This work was well in hand at the end of the year.

There are now sixty-two licensed premises in the District, and the general level of hygiene is good.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are eight bakehouses in this District and visits were made to each of these during the year. The bakehouses are situated as follows:-

Bremhill ...	2
Castle Combe	1
Cherhill ...	1
Colerne ...	1
Corsham ...	3

No bakehouses in the District have closed down this year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955; Section 63.

The licence for the knacker's yard at Heddington has been renewed, following a satisfactory report on the conditions prevailing. Four visits were made to the yard during the year, and conditions were found to be adequate on each occasion.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS, 1958.

The return of horses slaughtered at the Heddington knacker's yard showed that nineteen were slaughtered during 1962, all on farm premises. The total number of carcasses received at the yard was twenty-nine.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954.SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS, 1958; Section 19.

Six slaughtermen's licences have been issued under these regulations, all of whom are employed at the Heddington knacker's yard.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958.SLAUGHTERHOUSE (REPORTS) DIRECTION, 1959.

No slaughterhouses have operated in the Rural District since 1939, and all home-killed meat is obtained from slaughterhouses in Chippenham, Bath, Swindon, Devizes and Weston-super-Mare.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959.Registration of Dairies, other than Dairy Farms, and of Distributors.

Regulation 8(1) requires the registration of distributors only with the Local Authority in whose area the premises from which the milk is distributed are situated. New dairy premises were brought into use in Compton Bassett and this dairy was duly registered.

No. of Registered Dairies	14
No. of Registered Distributors ..	20

Fifty routine inspections have been made at these premises.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1960.

No. of Dealers' Licences to use designation "Tuberculin-Tested" (in respect of raw milk bottled on their own premises)	3
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These are in the following Parishes:

Calne Without	1
Corsham	1
Yatton Keynell	1

The applications from six dealers for licences to use the designations "Tuberculin-Tested", "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised" in relation to pre-packed milk were still under review at the end of 1961. Further enquiries concerning these dairies and the methods of handling, storage and bottling of milk were made early in 1962, and the Council, having been satisfied with these arrangements, recommended that the necessary licences for Dealers' Pre-Packed Milk be issued.

The total number of such licences issued for this purpose is shown below:-

No. of Dealers' (Pre-Packed) Milk Licences to use the designation "Tuberculin-Tested"	17
No. of Dealers' (Pre-Packed) Milk Licences to use the designation "Pasteurised"	20
No. of Dealers' (Pre-Packed) Milk Licences to use the designation "Sterilised"	10

Pre-Packed Milk Dealers:

Box	3	Corsham	10
Calne Without	1	Colerne	1
Christian Malford ...	1	Lacock	1
Compton Bassett	2	Yatton Keynell	1

MILK SAMPLING FOR STATUTORY EXAMINATION.

Routine milk samples have again been taken each month from distributors of milk who have been licensed by the Council, and 289 samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratories for testing. Reports on these samples were as follows:-

Satisfactory	286	(249)	- 1961 figures.
Unsatisfactory	3	(16)	

Twenty-three milk bottle rinse series were also sent to the Public Health Laboratories to check on the effectiveness of bottle-washing, and all were found to be satisfactory.

MILK SAMPLING FOR BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

In addition to the routine sampling of the various designated milks, biological samples have been taken of raw milk. This has entailed thirty-nine visits to the dairies of the eleven milk producers who supply raw T.T. milk to retailers in this District, and 117 churn samples have been taken.

Ten of the samples showed positive abortus ring test, but infection was not confirmed by inoculation into guinea-pigs.

Eighty-six laboratory reports have been received of the 117 samples taken and all were negative regarding brucellosis and tuberculosis.

SHOPS ACT, 1950; Section 38.

During the year, 113 inspections have been made of shop premises in connection with lighting, ventilation, provision of sanitary conveniences, etc. I have no special observations to make in relation to shop premises, other than to report that these were generally well-maintained and the standard of accommodation and management, with certain exceptions, is improving each year.

RENT ACT, 1957: Section 1 and First Schedule.

One application for a Certificate of Disrepair has been received this year, in respect of No.50, Kington St.Michael. The Council recommended that a Notice under the First Schedule of this Act be served on the owner, advising him of the Council's intention to issue a Certificate of Disrepair if the necessary repairs were not carried out.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, as amended by the
HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACT, 1959, and HOUSING ACT, 1961.

<u>Discretionary Grants.</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>
Applications received for conversions(No.of houses)	5	} 46
" " " improvements	49	
Approvals for conversion of owner/occupied property	1	} 36
" " " " other " "	4	
Approvals for improvement of owner/occupied property	17	
" " " " other " "	26	
Amount of Grants approved for conversions	£ 1,903	} £18,843
" " " " improvements	£14,834	
No. of applications made during the year which were refused or withdrawn	6	6
Grants completed(No.of houses)	32	47

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959.

<u>Standard Grants.</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>
Applications received(No.of houses)	66	49
" approved for owner/occupied houses	31	} 43
" " " other " "	22	
No. of applications made during the year which were refused or withdrawn	9	3
No. of houses improved	31	29
Amount of Grants paid	£3,950	£4,626
No. of hot water supplies provided	25	
" " water closets	28	
" " baths	25	
" " wash-basins	29	
" " food stores	24	

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. No. of permanent dwellings in district at end of the year ...	7912
2. No. of permanent dwellings in district owned by the local authority	1374
3. No. of temporary dwellings in district owned by the local authority	805
4. No. of applications for Council houses at end of the year ...	410
5. <u>Inspection of dwellings during the year:</u>	
(a) No. of dwellings inspected for housing defects under the Public Health Acts	28
(b) No. of dwellings inspected for housing defects under the Housing Acts	107
(c) No. of dwellings found not to be reasonably fit for habitation	41
6. No. of dwellings rendered fit and defects remedied in consequence of informal action	30

7. Action under Statutory Powers:A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 12, Housing Act, 1957:

(i) No. of dwellings where notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(ii) No. of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority in default of owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(i) No. of dwellings where formal notices were served	Nil
(ii) No. of dwellings made fit as a result of formal notices:	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority in default of owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957:

(i) No. of Demolition Orders made	3
(ii) No. of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	12
(iii) No. of undertakings to make fit accepted	7
(iv) No. of undertakings completed	6
(v) No. of undertakings not to relet accepted	7

D. Proceedings under Sections 42,43,46,48, Housing Act,1957:

(i) No. of houses in clearance areas upon which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(ii) No. of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	Nil
(iii) No. of houses in clearance areas which have been retained as temporary accommodation	Nil

E. Proceedings under Sections 17,18,27, Housing Act, 1957:

(i) No. of dwellings where Closing Orders were made	3
(ii) No. of dwellings closed as a result of Closing Orders or undertakings by owners	7
(iii) No. of dwellings where Closing Orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit	1
(iv) No. of dwellings demolished which had previously been reported closed	1

F. Proceedings under Section 76, Housing Act, 1957:

(i) No. of cases of overcrowding at end of year	Not known
(ii) No. of cases of overcrowding discovered during year ...	None
(iii) No. of cases of overcrowding abated during year	6

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

No formal complaints of noise nuisance have so far been referred to this department.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, and WATER ACT, 1945.

During the past year, 350 water samples have been taken, twenty-eight from private supplies and the rest from public mains.

Analysis of Results of Samples:

		<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Widdenham, Box		51	2
Washwells, Box		12	-
Goodshill, Corsham		11	1
Nettleton		11	1
Biddestone	(Chippenham Borough)	3	-
Grittleton	{ " " }	4	-
Stanton St. Quintin	{ " " }	4	-
Sutton Benger	{ " " }	6	-
East Tytherton, Bremhill	{ " " }	5	-
Burton	(West Glos. Water Co.)	4	-
Yatesbury, Cherhill	(R.A.F.)	12	-
Cherhill	(Blackfords)	1	-
Theobalds Green, Calne	(Calne Borough)	4	-
Langley Burrell	(Harris's)	4	-

Eastern Area Water Scheme:

Hilmarton	11	-
Cherhill	3	-
Bremhill	4	-
Foxham	4	-
Heddington	4	-
Compton Bassett	4	-
Bowden Hill	55	-
Fiveways, Hawthorn	53	-
Yewstock, Chippenham	44	-
Slaughterford	4	-
Private supplies	17	11

In addition to the above, eight chemical samples were taken and all these were satisfactory.

Three Statutory Notices were recommended for issue in respect of the provision of supplies of wholesome water sufficient for the domestic purposes of the occupants, but in one case the owner of two houses connected to the public main before the Statutory Notice was served. Satisfactory water supplies to the other two properties will be provided by the Council in default, and any expense reasonably incurred will be recovered, or a charge levied on the property.

One Statutory Notice issued in 1961 was complied with during this year when a piped supply of water was laid on to a cottage at Spirthill.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE) PROVISIONS ACT, 1956.

The usual inspections of nursery establishments were made to ensure that adequate sanitary facilities exist at these premises for employees.

No complaints of unsatisfactory sanitary facilities at farm premises have been received.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

Fifteen premises are registered for the treatment of food waste, and twenty-seven visits have been made to these during the year. Seven licensed premises have given up the treatment of waste food and have been deleted from the register of such premises.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

It has not been necessary for any formal action to be taken under this Act during the year. The Council continued to be Members of the Bristol and West Clean Air Committee, and the Council's representatives attended the Annual Meeting, held at Bristol on the 29th March 1962.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

No licences for keeping pet shops have been issued during 1962.

FACTORIES ACT, 1959, and FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-1948.

There are now eighty-six factories in the Rural District, and seven workplaces are registered. Seven of the factories are on Crown property. During the year twenty-four inspections have been made of these premises.

FACTORIES ACT, 1936; Section 110: Outworkers.

The number of outworkers in the Rural District is now twenty-nine, compared to thirty-two last year. These are distributed as follows:

Box	5	Lacock	2
Corsham	20	Yatton Keynell	1
Kington St.Michael ...	1		

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Details are given below of the work carried out by the Council's Rodent Officer during the past year:-

	Local Authority Properties.	Agricultural Properties.	Business and Other Properties.	Council Houses.	Private Houses.	Total.
<u>No. of properties inspected:</u>						
following notification	3	5	19	19	38	84
with major infestations of rats	1	4	6	-	3	14
with minor infestations of rats	1	1	9	4	19	34
with major infestations of house mice	-	-	-	-	3	3
with minor infestations of house mice	1	-	1	3	4	9
<u>No. of properties surveyed:</u>						
as required by the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	28	312	29	56	16	441
with major infestations of rats	1	9	2	-	2	14
with minor infestations of rats	9	32	11	6	7	65
with major infestations of house mice	-	-	-	-	-	-
with minor infestations of house mice	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. of inspections and re-inspections	151	322	63	106	66	708
No. of properties treated	13	3	16	14	33	79
No. of treatments and re-treatments	37	3	21	15	34	110
Total no. of visits re Rodent Control	257	348	149	147	140	1041
Total no. of visits re other pests	-	-	-	9	6	15

During the past year, 166 manholes have been test-baited in the following areas:-

Biddestone
Box
Castle Combe
Colerne
Corsham (including testing of the whole of
the Ministry of Works system).
Gastard
Neston
Lacock
Yatton Keynell.

A minor infestation was found and treated in Box. Re-testing six months later of thirteen manholes in the infested section showed "takes" in four manholes. The whole section was then treated and on final test was found to be free from infestation.

The Council's Rodent Officer experienced difficulty in gaining admittance to certain farm premises, but an appeal through the local Branch of the National Farmers' Union brought closer co-operation and admission is now generally granted. I have advised the Rodent Officer not to press for admittance if the time of his visit is inconvenient, and he now arranges a further visit to such premises by appointment.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

(i) Section 60: Means of Escape in Case of Fire - Hotels.

The means of escape from the second floor of one hotel in the Rural District was considered to be inadequate. The owner was advised that unless satisfactory evidence was produced that the work would be put in hand, a Statutory Notice requiring the provision of the necessary means of escape from the second floor would be served. A builder was engaged, and the work was in hand at the end of December.

(ii) Section 58: Dangerous or Dilapidated Buildings and Structures.

The owners of the Chapel at Stockley reported to be in a dangerous condition, failed to execute the necessary work to render the building safe.

Application to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order under Section 58 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was recommended, requiring the owners to execute such work as might be necessary to obviate the danger, or to demolish any dangerous part thereof, and remove any rubbish resulting from the demolition. Action is pending in respect of this property.

(iii) Section 44(i)(b): Provision of Sufficient or Satisfactory Closet Accommodation.

A Notice under this Section was served on the owner of a property in Castle Combe, the Notice was not complied with and the Council executed the work in default. The expense of this work will be recovered by instalments, but in the event of the debt not being paid, it would be made a charge on the property.

(iv) Section 39(i): Provision of Satisfactory Drainage to Premises.

A Statutory Notice to provide satisfactory drainage to a cottage at Castle Combe was complied with.

OIL HEATER REGULATIONS, 1962.

These Regulations, made under the Consumers' Protection Act, 1961, came into force on the 1st June 1962, and required various safety standards to be incorporated in domestic oil heaters.

Visits were made to shop premises where these heaters were stocked, and it was found that all the heaters held, complied with the Regulations.

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OIL HEATER REGULATIONS, 1962.

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